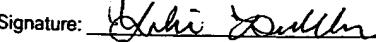




I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as Express Mail, Airbill No. EV535681254US, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date shown below.
Dated: October 29, 2004
Signature:  (Yuki Tsukuda)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
DECLARATION FOR PATENT APPLICATION

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name.

I believe I am an original, first and joint inventor of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled:

METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR AUTOMATICALLY ISOLATING MINIMAL DISTINGUISHING STIMULI IN DESIGN VERIFICATION AND SOFTWARE DEVELOPMENT

the specification of which was filed on August 29, 2001 as Application No. 09/943,209.

In the event that the filing date and/or Application No. are not entered above at the time I execute this document, and if such information is deemed necessary, I hereby authorize and request my attorneys/agent(s) at **Osha & May L.L.P.**, 1221 McKinney, St., Suite 2800, Houston, Texas 77010, to insert above the filing date and/or Application No. of said application.

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified specification, including the claims, as amended by an amendment, if any, specifically referred to herein.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose all information known to me that is material to patentability in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, § 1.56.

FOREIGN PRIORITY CLAIM

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code § 119(a)-(d) of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate listed below and have also identified below any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed:

- no such foreign applications have been filed
 such foreign application have been filed as follows:

**EARLIEST FOREIGN APPLICATION(S), IF ANY FILED WITHIN 12 MONTHS
(6 MONTHS FOR DESIGN) PRIOR TO THIS U.S. APPLICATION**

Application Number	Country	Date of Filing	Priority Claimed Under 35 USC 119
			___ Yes ___ No ___
			___ Yes ___ No ___
			___ Yes ___ No ___

**ALL FOREIGN APPLICATION(S), IF ANY FILED MORE THAN 12 MONTHS
(6 MONTHS FOR DESIGN) PRIOR TO THIS U.S. APPLICATION**

Application Number	Country	Date of Filing

CLAIM FOR BENEFIT OF EARLIER U.S. PROVISIONAL APPLICATIONS

I hereby claim priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code §119(e), of any United States provisional patent application(s) listed below:

- no such U.S. provisional applications have been filed.
- such U.S. provisional application have been filed as follows:

Application Number	Date of Filing	Priority Claimed Under 35 USC 119
60/313,763	August 20, 2001	___ X ___ Yes ___ No ___
		___ Yes ___ No ___
		___ Yes ___ No ___

CLAIM FOR BENEFIT OF EARLIER U.S./PCT APPLICATION(S)

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, §120 of the United States application(s) listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code, §112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose all information that is material to patentability in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, §1.56 which became available to me between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application:

no such U.S./PCT applications have been filed.

such U.S./PCT application have been filed as follows:

Application Number	Relationship	Parent Application	Date of Filing

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

I hereby appoint:

All practitioners at USPTO Customer Number 32615

and **Osha & May L.L.P.**, 1221 McKinney, St., Suite 2800, Houston, Texas 77010, jointly, and each of them severally, my attorneys at law/patent agent(s), with full power of substitution, delegation and revocation, to prosecute this application, to make alterations and amendments therein, to receive the patent, and to transact all business in the U. S. Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith.

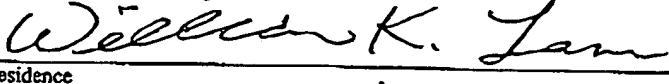
The undersigned hereby authorizes the U.S. attorney or agent named herein to accept and follow instructions from Sun Microsystems, Inc. as to any action to be taken in the United States Patent and Trademark Office regarding this application without direct communication between the U.S. attorney or agent and the undersigned. In the event of a change in the persons from whom instructions may be taken, the U.S. attorney or agent named herein will be so notified by the undersigned.

Please mail all correspondence to the address associated with USPTO Customer Number 32615.

Please direct telephone calls to: Jonathan P. Osha at (713) 228-8600.

Please direct facsimiles to: (713) 228-8778

Attorney Docket No.: 16159/062002; P5729

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Full name of third inventor, if any	
Third inventor's signature	Date
Residence	
Citizenship	
Mailing Address	

Full name of fourth inventor, if any	
Fourth inventor's signature	Date
Residence	
Citizenship	
Mailing Address	

Attorney Docket No.: 16159/062002; P5729

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Second inventor's signature 	Date Oct. 25, 2004
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Full name of third inventor, if any	
Third inventor's signature	Date
Residence	
Citizenship	
Mailing Address	

Full name of fourth inventor, if any	
Fourth inventor's signature	Date
Residence	
Citizenship	
Mailing Address	